

real big tax cut, you don't have money for education; you don't have money to extend the life of Social Security and Medicare. There will be an increase in interest rates, because people will think we're going to overstimulate the economy, and that way all of you who care about interest rates will lose your tax cut in higher interest rates.

And what I want to do is to have a tax cut that is modest and targeted, so that we save enough of this surplus, not only to save Social Security and Medicare and invest in education but also to get this country out of debt in 15 years, for the first time since 1835. That's before Teddy Roosevelt and Taft came to the fair. [Laughter] Andrew Jackson was President in 1835. That's how long it's been.

But again, think like a farmer. If you're a family farmer, chances are you've got an amount of money every year to bring the crop in or to replenish the herd of cattle or whatever it is you do. America is like that.

And if you want this economy to continue to grow, we have to keep interest rates as low as possible. I can't think of anything that would guarantee the children in this audience a generation of security more than essentially taking America's Government out of debt, taking America out of the competition for borrowing money, leaving the money there for you to borrow and our children to borrow, at the lowest possible interest rates, for business loans, for home loans, for car loans, for college loans, for you name it. I think this makes a lot of sense.

So I say to you, when you leave here today, I want you to think about that. I want you to think of Carl McCall as somebody who's been like a good farmer, who's taken good care of your resources. He hasn't squandered the seed. He can bring in a crop next year for you because he's done it. And I want you to think of the challenge and the opportunity, the phenomenal opportunity your country has right now.

I won't be around for a lot of these decisions which have to be made. But we can make them now. And if we stick with them, we literally can meet the challenge of the aging of America, the challenge of the children of America, the challenge to spread the economic bounty of America to communities that haven't had it. We can get this country

out of debt, and we can continue to lead the world for peace and freedom and justice. We can do that. But we have to think like the people we're coming here to this fair to celebrate today.

Thank you, and God bless you.

NOTE: The President spoke at 1:12 p.m. in the Empire Room of the Art and Home Center Building at the Syracuse State Fairgrounds. In his remarks, he referred to State Assembly Majority Leader Michael J. Bragman; and State Comptroller H. Carl McCall's wife, Joyce Brown.

Radio Remarks on Earthquake Relief for Turkey

August 31, 1999

The recent earthquake in Turkey is one of the worst natural disasters of the century. Tens of thousands of people are either confirmed dead or still missing.

On behalf of all Americans, Hillary and I offer our deepest condolences to the loved ones of those who have lost their lives. Our thoughts and prayers are with all those affected by this tragedy.

Turkey is our longtime ally. The Turkish people are our friends. Today they urgently need assistance. Many are severely injured. Hundreds of thousands are camping outdoors. There is a serious risk of disease spreading. We must help the victims rebuild their lives.

Working with Turkey's Government and others, American military and civilian personnel, including teams from Fairfax County, Virginia, and Dade County, Florida, helped with the rescue efforts. Now we're helping provide shelter, water, sanitation, and medical services. I'm grateful to all those participating.

Here at home, Americans are helping, too, including religious leaders of many faiths, who've united to call for prayer and humanitarian action. I encourage my fellow citizens to give generously to charitable organizations supporting the relief efforts. For information, you can call our toll-free number in the U.S., that's 1-800-USAID-RELIEF—1-800-USAID-RELIEF or look on the Internet at www.whitehouse.gov.

NOTE: The President's remarks were recorded at approximately 10:45 a.m. on August 28 at the Edgartown Elementary School in Martha's Vineyard, MA, for later broadcast. The transcript was released by the Office of the Press Secretary on August 31. These remarks were also made available on the White House Press Office Radio Actuality Line.

**Statement on Announcement of the
Bosnia-Herzegovina National Day**
September 1, 1999

Today the Joint Presidents of Bosnia-Herzegovina announced that the national day of their country will henceforth be celebrated on November 21, the anniversary of the Dayton peace accords of 1995. In so doing, the leaders of every ethnic community in Bosnia-Herzegovina have made clear that Dayton marked not merely the end of a war but the beginning of a new country and a blueprint for its future. I am pleased that the date November 21 will be honored as a symbol of multi-ethnic democracy and solidarity between the people of the United States and the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

**Statement on the Cease-Fire
Agreement in the Democratic
Republic of the Congo**
September 1, 1999

I welcome the signing of a cease-fire agreement by founding members of the Rally for Congolese Democracy (RCD) yesterday in Lusaka. Their signature brings into force the Lusaka accord, signed by six African Heads of State on July 10th and aimed at ending the war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo. In a region that has seen terrible violence, there is now a chance for a genuine and just peace. I urge all parties to implement and adhere to the agreement and to act in good faith to enable the citizens of the Congo and neighboring states to pursue their lives in peace, prosperity, and democracy.

I especially congratulate the leaders of the Southern African Development Community (SADC), Rwanda, and Uganda for working together to secure RCD signature of the

Lusaka accord. This agreement is the result of the vision, dedication, and courage of regional nations and their leaders. It is a crucial step in ending one of the continent's most dangerous wars. The same courage and commitment are now required to see the accord fully implemented.

The continuing effort to build an enduring peace deserves America's support. We will work closely with all parties to realize the goals of the Lusaka accord: to achieve a broadbased, democratic, and open political process in the Congo and to address the security concerns of neighboring states. I hope the agreement will help end the cycle of violence in the region and promote stability and reconstruction across central Africa.

**Statement on the Release of the
"Futurework" Report**
September 1, 1999

The "Futurework" report, released today by the Department of Labor, underscores the need for an even stronger commitment to education and training to help workers thrive in an economy that is changing faster than ever before. Now, more than ever, American workers must learn the new skills needed to face the challenges of the 21st century economy.

The Republican tax proposal, because it would force cuts in education and worker training of roughly 50 percent in 2009, would deny millions of Americans the chance to gain these skills. Now is not the time to short-change the future opportunities of American workers by enacting an irresponsible tax plan that fails to allow adequate investment in education and training.

Radio Remarks on Drunk Driving
September 2, 1999

Working together, we've made enormous progress in reducing drunk driving in America. Today I'm pleased to report we're making even more. Last year the number of people killed in alcohol-related crashes hit a record low, and young people killed in alcohol-related crashes fell to the lowest rate ever